

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 14-15, 18-20, 23-31, 34-37, and 39-40 are pending upon entry of this amendment. Claims 14, and 34 are amended; claims 1-13, 16-17, 21-22, 32-33, and 38 are canceled. No new matter has been added by the claim amendments.

Claims 14, 15, 18-26, 28-31 and 34-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Dam et al. (2003/0008411) in view of Quake et al. (2002/0037499).

Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Dam et al. in view of Quake et al. and further in view of Raillard et al. (2002/0102577).

Telephone Interview

The undersigned thanks the Examiner for the helpful telephone interview conducted on January 31, 2011.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claim 14 has been amended to recite "wherein the first valve of the set of loop forming control valves comprises a control channel of the pump," among other elements. As illustrated in FIG. 7A, control valve 724B is one of the three control channels of pump 732. Applicants respectfully submit that at least these elements are not taught or suggested by the cited references, either considered alone or in combination. Therefore, for at least these reasons, claim 14 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 15, 18-20, and 23-31, which depend from claim 14, are in condition for allowance, for at least the reasons discussed in relation to claim 14, as well as for the additional elements they recite.

Claim 34 has been amended to recite elements similar to claim 14. Therefore, claim 34 is in condition for allowance, for at least the reasons discussed in relation to claim 14. Claims 35-37 and 39-40, which depend from claim 34, are in condition for allowance, for at least the reasons discussed in relation to claim 34, as well as for the additional elements they recite.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Appl. No. 10/602,489
Amdt. dated February 2, 2011
Reply to Office Action of October 4, 2010

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

/Craig C. Largent/

Craig C. Largent
Reg. No. 56,400

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 415-576-0300
CCL/ka
62995079 v1